

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE TITLE

The title has been amended to more clearly indicate the nature of the invention to which the claims are directed, as required by the Examiner.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 19 have been amended to clarify that the portable information device is a portable telephone, and claim 8 has been amended to more clearly recite a portable telephone and a printing device instead of an "external device," as supported by the disclosure throughout the specification.

In addition, claims 1 and 8 have been amended to recite the feature of the present invention whereby the server device collects a print charge for printing the main image by the printing device by adding the print charge to a telephone call charge. And claim 19 has similarly been amended to recite the feature of the present invention whereby the server device collects a print charge for printing the main image by the printing means by adding the print charge to a telephone call

charge. See the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 19, lines 3-12.

The claims have also been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put them in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent. In particular, it is noted that the informality pointed out by the Examiner in claim 1 has been corrected. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 USC 112 be withdrawn.

Claims 9-11, 17 and 18, moreover, have been canceled, thereby rendering moot the rejection of claims 9-11, 17 and 18 under 35 USC 101.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-4, 8-15 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 6,975,421 ("Hashimoto et al"), and claims 5-7 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Hashimoto et al and USP 5,956,557 ("Kato et al"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a printing service system is provided which comprises: a server device which comprises a storage portion having a main image and a thumbnail image corresponding to the main image stored therein; a portable telephone which provides access to the server device via a network to receive a desired thumbnail image and an image number corresponding thereto from the server device, and which transmits the image number corresponding to the thumbnail image; and a printing device which receives the image number transmitted from the portable telephone, and which downloads from the server device via the network the main image corresponding to the thumbnail image specified by the image number transmitted from the portable telephone, and which prints the downloaded main image. In addition, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1 the server device collects a print charge for printing the main image by the printing device by adding the print charge to a telephone call charge.

Thus, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a portable telephone receives a desired thumbnail image and an image number from the server device. The portable telephone transmits the image number to the printer device, which downloads from the server device and prints a main

image corresponding to the thumbnail image/image number. Then, as recited in amended independent claim 1, the server device collects a print charge for printing the main image by the printing device by adding the print charge to a telephone call charge.

It is respectfully submitted that Hashimoto et al and Kato et al, taken singly or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1.

In particular, while Hashimoto et al discloses a print system including a client device 40, Hashimoto et al does not disclose that the client device 40 is a portable telephone as recited in amended independent claim 1. Clearly, therefore, Hashimoto et al does not disclose, in particular, a server device which collects a print charge for printing the main image by the printing device by adding the print charge to a telephone call charge as recited in amended independent claim 1. Kato et al, moreover, has been cited for the disclosure of a coin-operated copy machine and also clearly does not disclose, teach or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 3 depending therefrom, clearly patentably distinguish over Hashimoto et al and Kato et

al, taken singly or in combination (even if the combination of Hashimoto et al and Kato et al were reasonable).

In addition, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 19, a printing service system is provided in which, in particular, a portable telephone receives a desired thumbnail image and an image number from the server device. The portable telephone transmits the image number to printing means, which downloads from the server device and prints a main image corresponding to the thumbnail image/image number. Then, as recited in amended independent claim 19, the server device collects a print charge for printing the main image by the printing means by adding the print charge to a telephone call charge.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 19 also clearly patentably distinguishes over Hashimoto et al and Kato et al.

Still further, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 8, a server device is provided which comprises: a first storage portion having a main image and a thumbnail image corresponding to the main image stored therein; a second storage portion having a program stored therein; a communication portion connected to a network to communicate with a portable telephone and a printing device; and a control portion which reads out a specified thumbnail image, which is specified

by the portable telephone via the network, from the first storage portion in accordance with the program stored by the second storage portion and delivers the read out thumbnail image from the communication portion to the portable telephone via the network, and which reads out the main image corresponding to the thumbnail image from the first storage portion and delivers the read out main image from the communication portion to the printing device via the network. In addition, as recited in amended independent claim 8, the server device collects a print charge for printing the main image by the printing device by adding the print charge to a telephone call charge.

Thus, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 8, the control portion of the server device reads out the main image corresponding to the thumbnail image, which is specified by a portable telephone from the first storage portion and delivers the read out main image from the communication portion to the printing device via the network, and the server device collects a print charge for printing the main image by the printing device by adding the print charge to a telephone call charge.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 8 also clearly patentably distinguishes over Hashimoto et al and Kato et al.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in each of amended independent claims 1, 8 and 19, and claims 2 and 3 depending from claim 1, clearly patentably distinguishes over Hashimoto et al and Kato et al, taken singly or in combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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